

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings and versions of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An optional venting container comprising a base and a lid releasably latched to the base, the lid comprising at least one ventable area formed therein, the at least one ventable area having a perimeter defined by a cut, ~~the cut~~ consisting of a first interruption discontinuity between opposing ends of the cut, the opposing ends defining a hinge portion ~~therebetween, and a second interruption~~ ~~the discontinuity~~ spaced substantially from the ~~first interruption~~ hinge to define a single frangible portion, the ventable area being adapted to form a vent by applying pressure within the perimeter to rupture the single frangible portion.

Claim 2. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the base and the lid are made from the group consisting of alkenyl aromatic polymeric foams, polyolefin foams and polyester foams.

Claim 3. (Previously Amended) The container of claim 2, wherein the base and the lid are made from the same polymeric foam.

Claim 4. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the base comprises a bottom, a sidewall and a first rim, the sidewall encompasses the bottom and extends upwardly from the bottom, the first rim encompasses the sidewall and extends generally outwardly therefrom.

Claim 5. (Original) The container of claim 4, wherein the lid further includes a second rim, a second sidewall and a top wall, the second sidewall encompasses and extends generally downward from the top wall, the second rim extends generally outwardly from the second sidewall, the second rim of the lid is adapted to releasably latch with the first rim of the base.

Claim 6. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the lid forms a plurality of ventable areas.

Claim 7. (Original) The container of claim 6, wherein the lid further includes a second sidewall and a top wall, the second sidewall encompasses and extends generally downward from the top wall, the top wall forms a plurality of ventable areas.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the lid further includes a second sidewall and a top wall, the second sidewall encompasses and extends generally downward from the top wall, the top wall has an angled surface located near the intersection of the top wall and the second sidewall.

Claim 9. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the at least one ventable area is a general U-shape.

Claim 10. (Canceled)

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein a crease is formed in the lid after the at least one ventable area is moved to a vented position.

Claims 12-13. (Canceled)

Claim 14. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the at least one ventable area is formed by a knife cut.

Claim 15. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the container further comprises a hinge, the hinge connects the base and the lid and allows the lid to pivot with respect to the base.

Claim 16. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the container has a thickness of from about 30 to about 150 mils.

Claim 17. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the base comprises a bottom and a sidewall, the sidewall encompasses the bottom and extends upwardly from the bottom.

Claim 18. (Original) The container of claim 1, wherein the at least one ventable area, after forming the vent, remains with the remainder of the lid.

Claims 19 - 45. (Canceled)

Claim 46. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the frangible portion is disposed opposite the hinge portion.

Claim 47. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the cut has a depth less than the thickness of the lid.

Claim 48. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 47, wherein the cut has a depth up to about 50% of the thickness of the lid.

Claim 49. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 47, wherein the cut has a depth up to about 75% of the thickness of the lid.

Claim 50. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 47, wherein the cut has a depth up to about 95% of the thickness of the lid.

Claim 51. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the cut penetrates the lid.

Claim 52. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the lid has a generally polygonal shape forming at least one corner, the ventable area disposed in the at least one corner.

Claims 53-54. (Canceled)

Claim 55. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 8, wherein the ventable area is formed in the angled surface of the top wall.

Claim 56. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1, wherein the ventable area includes a first side, a third side, and a second side disposed therebetween.

Claim 57. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 56, wherein the ~~first interruption discontinuity~~ is disposed opposite the second side and between the first side and third side.

Claim 58. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 56, wherein the frangible portion is disposed in the second side.